

# HELMET CARE AND INSPECTION

CREWS, **SOFT SPOTS** IN YOUR HGU-56/P AIRCREW INTEGRATED HELMET SYSTEM (AIHS) MEAN YOUR NOGGIN **ISN'T** FULLY PROTECTED.

I MAY BE **TOUGH**, BUT I'M NOT MADE OF STEEL!

"I DON'T KNOW WHICH IS THE WORST: BEING DROPPED..."

"...FORGOTTEN ON A HOT DAY..."

"...TOSSED IN THE BACK..."

"...OR BEING USED AS A STOOL!"

THIS KIND OF **ABUSE** CAN CREATE **SOFT SPOTS** ON YOUR HARD OUTER SHELL.

IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH, A **SOFT SPOT** MAY **NOT** OFFER YOU THE FULL IMPACT PROTECTION AND PLACE YOUR HEAD AT RISK FOR INJURY.

ARE YOU **SURE** THERE ARE **SOFT SPOTS**?

I CAN'T SEE ANY!

SINCE YOU **CAN'T** SEE **SOFT SPOTS**, THE AVIATION LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (ALSE) HEADSHED IS ADDING A CHECK FOR **SOFT SPOTS** TO THE ALSE TECH'S 120-DAY INSPECTION ON PAGE 4-3 OF TM 1-8415-216-128P.

THE WORD'S IN MAINTENANCE INFORMATION MESSAGE (MIM) PM ACIS (AIS01-09).

YEAH! YOU REALLY NEED TO READ IT!

HERE'S HOW TO CHECK A HELMET:

1. Place the palm of your hand against the shell so you can press on the suspected soft spot with your index finger. Use the flat part of your finger, not the tip.
2. If a spot is detected, use a coin the size of a quarter or larger and tap around the area to find the extent of the soft spot. The noise will sound dull or flat on the soft spot.
3. Mark a circle around the edge of the soft spot with a fine-tipped marker.
4. Turn it in to your ALSE tech for evaluation.

ALSE TECHS, A HELMET IS **NOT** FULLY MISSION CAPABLE IF YOU FIND...

- One soft spot larger than 2½ inches in diameter.
- Two soft spots measuring more than 1¼ inches each in diameter. The length of both spots together cannot exceed 2½ inches in diameter.
- Three or more spots.
- Any soft spots around the ear dome area.